

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIE-00 MC-02 AID-20 EB-11 /108 R

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EA - MR. MILLER

NSC - MR. QUINN

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O 262127Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC PA LNO BKK THAI IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

MACTHAI IMMEDIATE

USSAG 7TH AF IMMEDIATE

CHMEDTG

CINCPACAF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212777

STATE/DEFENSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, TH, CB

SUBJECT: AIRLIFT SUPPORT FOR CAMBODIA

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REF: A. BANGKOK 14722; B. VIENTIANE 7082

1. THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE BY DOD IN WASHINGTON ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, IN AN EFFORT TO FURTHER REDUCE THE PRESENCE OF U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CAMBODIA, THE U.S. AIR FORCE HAS COMPLETED NEGOTIATIONS TO HAVE A CIVILIAN CONTRACTOR OPERATE A U.S. GOVERNMENT FURNISHED C-130S IN SUPPORT OF THE U.S. AIRLIFT REQUIREMENT FOR CAMBODIA. CIVILIAN CREWS ARE TO COMMENCE FLYING MISSIONS FROM U-TAPAO ROYAL THAI NAVY AIRFIELDS IN EARLY OCTOBER. THE CONTRACT INVOLVES AIRLANDING AND AIRDROPPING SUPPLIES INTO CAMBODIA DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. THE COST OF THE CIVILIAN CREWS CONTRACT, 1.76 MILLION DOLS. WILL BE CHARGED TO THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. U.S. AIR FORCE CREWS HAVE BEEN AVERAGING THREE C-130 FLIGHTS PER DAY IN SUPPORT OF CAMBODIA DURING RECENT WEEKS. THE THAI AND CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE APPROVED THE AGREEMENT WHICH CALLS FOR CIVILIAN CREWS TO FLY THESE MISSIONS IN PLACE OF U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL. A CONTRACT WAS SIGNED WITH BIRD AIR (A WASHINGTON STATE COMPANY). UNQUOTE.

2. FOR ALL: ANNOUNCEMENT IN PARA ONE AND THE Q'S AND A'S CONTAINED IN REF A AS AMENDED BY REF B, IN ADDITION TO THOSE

Q'S AND A'S IN PARA 3 BELOW, MAY BE USED BY ACTION ADDRESSEES IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS.

3. IN ADDITION TO QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN REF A AS AMENDED BY REF B, THE FOLLOWING CHANGES ARE MADE:

(A) REF A, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS 8 AND 34: DELETE.

(B) QUESTION 43: CHANGE "THAT" T "WHAT".

(C) QUESTION 25: DELETE THE WORD "WHERE".

(D) ANSWER 27: ADD "DURING THE LEASE PERIOD, THE CONTRACTOR IS OF COURSE RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME EXPENSES OF OPERATING THE AIRCRAFT SUCH AS INSURANCE, CREWS; AND THE LIKE."

(E) QUESTION 30: SUBSTITE "SECDEF" FOR "JCS".

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(F) ADD THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q.41. DOES THIS MEAN THAT USAF C-130 AIRCREWS WILL NO LONGER OPERATE IN CAMBODIA?

A.41. YES, THIS TERMINATES USAF AIRLIFT SUPPORT IN CAMBODIA.

Q.42. IS THERE A POSSIBILITY THAT USAF AIRLIFT SUPPORT WILL BE REINTRODUCED IN THE FUTURE?

A.42. THIS CONTINGENCY HAS BEEN CONSIDERED. SHOULD A SURGE REQUIREMENT EXCEED THE COMBINED CAPABILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR AND THE KAF, THE NEED WILL BE ASSESSED.

Q.43. WHAT WILL BE THE RESCUE PROCEDURES SHOULD A CONTRACT C-130 BL FORCED DOWN IN CAMBODIA DUE EITHER TO MECHANICAL FAILURE OR ENEMY ACTION?

A.43. THE KHMER AIR FORCE (KAF) WILL ASSUME THIS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE SAME DEGREE THAT THEY PROVIDE SAR SUPPORT FOR THEIR OWN CREWS.

Q.44. WILL THE USAF PROVIDE SAR BACKUP?

A.44. THIS QUESTION ASSUMES THAT GKR COULD NOT HANDLE A PARTICULAR REQUIREMENT. AS IN THE CASE OF ALL SAR REQUESTS, US ACTIONS WILL BE ADDRESSED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND ANY REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AT THE TIME. KISSINGER

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